

## Scientific and Technical Employee Development (STED) Conference Call May 28, 2009

Committee members:

Name	Role/Affiliation
Steve Anthony	Studies Section Chiefs
Steve Blanchard	WRD Senior Staff
Virginia de Lima (not present)	Center Directors
Bob Hainly (Chair)	Data Chiefs
Bill Hazell	Hydrologic Technicians
Harry Jenter	NRP
Mike Nolan (not present)	OSW
Dave Pollock	OGW
No appointee (not present)	IT Specialists
Lynn Taylor	NWIS
Alan Ward	OED
Franceska Wilde (not present)	OWQ

### Meeting Introduction:

- Bob Hainly opened the teleconference and reviewed the agenda. No additions were suggested.

### Comments on the minutes from the March 2009 meeting:

- No comments were received.
- **ACTION ITEM** – Bob will send a reminder to the absent members to review the draft minutes and then send the finalized March 2009 meeting minutes to be posted on the STED web page.

### Review of the Action Items Log:

- Few items require review. No updates were received.
- **1/29 ACTION ITEM** – Steve Blanchard to recruit new members to replace our current NRP and IT reps whose terms are expiring.
  - Action Item progress – Steve sent e-mail request to Central Region.
  - (6/5/09 Update: Barb Kerans (CO WSC) will be new IT representative.)

### External Communication

- No reports.

### Rotational Committee Membership

- Rotational memberships adjusted. Results:
  - Virginia de Lima and Bob Hainly terms will end March 2010.
  - Bill Hazell term extended to March 2011.
  - (Steve Anthony also will serve until March 2011.)
- Harry Jenter will serve as NRP representative through March 2012.
- Barb Kerans will serve as IT representative through March 2012.

### TRAINING PROGRAM UPDATE: Sediment Transport Course - Alan Ward

- No recent communication due to Francisco's workload.
- Some communication between Francisco and Steve Anthony about use of MatLab software.

**FY2009 HR Initiative Funding Status – Alan Ward**

- WQ Principles - progress being made; received \$20K
- SW Procedures – most modules in review; received \$20K
- RT records processing funding delivered to Jim Kolva (OSW); received \$6K
- \$24K remaining and available for 3 other potential courses:
  - Motorboat Operator Certification Course (MOCC) – estimate \$3K
  - GRSAT (Liz Hittle) – estimate \$15K SME and \$12K for contract developer
  - Continuous-records processing (Walker) – estimate \$10K
- Orientation course not funded due to initiative funding restrictions
- Initiative requires matching salary and all funding spent by end of fiscal year
- TEL course update provided by Tj and Alan – 5/21/09 document sent by e-mail

**TRAINING PROGRAM UPDATE: SW Procedures and Policies Course Status – Bob (for Mike Nolan)**

- Per web page - all modules are complete except one
- **ACTION ITEM – Bob to check with Mike for an update**

**TRAINING PROGRAM UPDATE: QW Principles Course Status – Alan Ward (for Franceska)**

- Contracting delays – expect it to go out on June 6
- Working on other animations
- Expect roll out by September 2010

**OED Learning Services – Alan Ward**

- usgs.training.gov web page displays NTC courses, schedule, and fee list
- 18 new USGS classes offered this year
- Digital Video Streaming Services now available
  - Provides live web streaming of ± 2 hour classes from NTC
  - Also working with video-conferencing team - just approved for use
  - Works well for interactive classes that don't work completely in TEL
- Currently unable to charge different fee levels – an issue with OSW
  - Alan and Steve to follow up on this
- Tuition processing fee needed for administrative costs of payments
- About 40% of OED support is for non-NTC courses
- Cost-savings measures are underway
  - Paper to electronic files
- STED encouraged to spread word on OED learning services
  - **ACTION ITEM – Alan to check on adding NTC services link to STED web page**

**STED Web Page Enhancement – for Mike Nolan**

- Will attempt to focus on this topic during next conference call
- **ACTION ITEM – Bob to check with Mike for next call availability**

**STED Update to Senior Staff – Bob Hainly**

- Use this venue to introduce us and our progress to Matt Larsen
- **ACTION ITEM – Bob will talk to Steve about this**

**STED Face-to-Face Meeting**

- Potential topics:
  - Web page enhancement
  - “Recommended and Essential” technical courses for three disciplines
  - Charter update
  - TEL course development – course of action

**The next conference call is scheduled for Thursday, July 23 at 1:00 pm EDT.**